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OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
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1. THE SYRIAN SITUATION

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Rumors persist in Syria that the army might attempt to seize power.

DIA

informed the American military attaché that the period of greatest danger will be after the departure of President Quwatli for Switzerland, sometime within the next week. The recent attempt to assassinate Col.

Mustafa Hamdun, one of Col. Sarraj's strongest military supporters, has increased tension. The arrest of two Communists on the spot as suspects indicates that the attack may have been planned by the Communists to precipitate a move against the right by the ultranationalist leftists in the army.

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**3. TURKISH NATIONAL ELECTIONS TO BE
ADVANCED TO FALL**

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Turkish national elections will probably be held this fall instead of next spring, the secretary general of the Turkish Foreign Ministry told American officials in Ankara on 20 June.

Comment

This information gives substance to persistent rumors that the Turkish elections were to be advanced. Prime Minister Menderes is concerned over the inroads the opposition parties, especially the Freedom Party, have made in the provinces, the traditional stronghold of the incumbent Democratic Party. Menderes also probably believes the advantages he would enjoy this fall may be diminished by next spring, largely as the result of increased inflation and shortages of essential imports.

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4. POLISH-EAST GERMAN COMMUNIQUES

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Emphasis on unity and solidarity characterizes the bland communiqés released following three days of talks between Polish and East German party and government leaders in East Berlin. The communiqés try to make it appear that harmonious relations exist between the two parties which have been at odds since Gomulka came to power in Poland last October.

The fact, however, that there are still unresolved differences between the Poles and East Germans is emphatically pointed up by the omission of the usual Satellite reference to the leading role of the Soviet Union among Communist states and the failure to endorse the Soviet position on the Hungarian revolution. Moreover, the communiqés took special cognizance of Communist China's contribution to bloc-wide socialist development.

Although affirming that the "basic principles of socialist construction are common to all countries," the part communique evidences some flexibility on the part of both the Poles and East Germans, stating that "these principles should be applied in a creative manner, taking into account the historically formed conditions in each country...." This statement, while stopping somewhat short of the Polish separate roads to socialism thesis, goes further than the East Germans have been willing to go in the past. At the same time, all Communist and workers' parties were exhorted to watch over their "ideological purity" and "determinedly combat distortions, both revisionist and dogmatic."

The communiqés contained the usual Soviet bloc position on German reunification and the threat of German militarism, and reasserted the permanency of the Oder-Neisse frontier. They also called for an understanding with all states bordering the Baltic to make it "a sea of peace," suggesting a revival of earlier Communist proposals for a conference of Baltic powers.

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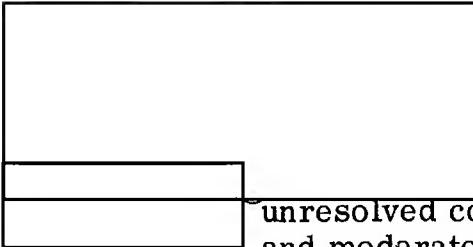
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5. BOURGES-MAUNOURY FACING CONFIDENCE VOTE

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Premier Bourges-Maunoury has been authorized by the cabinet to make his fiscal program a confidence measure in the vote expected on 24 June. The main threat to the program lies in the as yet unresolved conflict on fiscal policy between the Socialists and moderate right. Popular Republican support for the government is anticipated since this group has been promised assembly consideration of the European integration treaties on 2 July.

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The American embassy in Paris estimates that the assembly's desire to pass the government's fiscal and integration programs will save the cabinet. However, the government survived the procedural vote on the assembly agenda only by accepting Communist support, an indication that its position is "extremely precarious."

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